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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICTS.

ANNUAL REPORT

On The Health of

BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT

For the Year 1957

Report presented by

The Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health  
Inspector.

Braughing Rural District.

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BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report on the Health of the District for the Year 1957.

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICTS.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR, 1957.

B R A U G H I N G      R U R A L      D I S T R I C T.

P R E F A C E.

To the Chairman and Councillors, Braughing Rural District.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year ending December, 31st, 1957.

On that date your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. John Wildman, resigned to take up a public health appointment in Devon; and I was invited by the East Hertfordshire Combined Sanitary Districts Committee to act as locum Medical Officer of Health, until a successor is appointed.

Dr. Wildman has asked me, in presenting this report for him; to say how grateful he is for the help and co-operation he received from his colleagues on the Council's staff and from members of the Council during the nine years he has been your Medical Officer of Health.

At the same time I wish to express my appreciation of the invariable kindness and courtesy I have met while acting as temporary Medical Officer of Health.

In the early part of 1957 Measles and Whooping Cough occurred to the number of 157 and 30 respectively, but they were generally mild and no case was fatal. The other statistics contained in the report reflect the high standard of public health to be expected in a population of just over 10,000 enjoying over 45,000 acres of space in which to live.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

R. P. Garrow.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

John H. WILDMAN, M.R.C.S., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

**Central Office:**

(East Herts Combined Dists:)

Council Offices,  
High Street,  
HODDESDON, Herts.

**Telephone:**

Office - Hoddesdon 3061  
Private - Hoddesdon 2908

**Deputy (Part-Time) Medical Officer of Health.**

Peter de Bec TURTLE, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

**Senior Public Health Inspector. (Also Surveyor):**

E. E. WATERIDGE.

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Public Health Inspector: N. A. SHUTES.

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Clerical Duties in the Public Health Department are in charge of MISS. D. KENT.

### Public Health Department :-

Bridgefoot House,  
BUNTINGFORD,  
Herts.

( Telephone : - Buntingford 315/6).

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee, for the Session 1957/1958 was Councillor MR. L.A.C. HELMER.

The Public Health Committee is composed of all the Members of the Council.

S E C T I O N      A .

VITAL      STATISTICS      AND      GENERAL      STATISTICS      1957.

( Table 1 )

( Figures for 1956 are shown in brackets )

POPULATION.

Estimated Mid-Year Population Braughing Rural District

(10,440)                                    10,440

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres                         ...                        45,570

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books :

(3,440)                                    3,457

Number of Houses per acre     ...                        0.07

Number of Persons per acre     ...                        0.2

Number of Persons per house ...                        3.0

Rateable Value of District     ...                        £ 86,070

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate                        £ 337

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1957.

( Table 2 ).

( Figures for 1956 are shown in brackets ).

BIRTHS.

Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population: (13.51) 14.89

Area Comparability Factor for Births ..... ( 1.03 ) 1.03

Number of Live Births.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>Total:</u>	77	74	151
Legitimate:	75	71	146
Illegitimate:	2	3	5
<u>Number of Still Births.</u>	3	1	4

DEATHS.

Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population: (10.37) 10.84

Area Comparability Factor for Deaths ... ( 0.91 ) 0.89

Number of Deaths.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All ages	58	58	116
Deaths of Infants under 1 yr.	3	2	5
No. under four weeks of age	4	3	7

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 related Live Births. 79.47

COMPARISION WITH RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

BIRTH RATE: (15.7) 16.1 DEATH RATE: (11.7) 11.5

Infantile Mortality Rate: (23.8) 23.0

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the Year.

Disease	Total all Ages	Age Group in Years						Over 65	Not known
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-			
Whooping Cough	30	3	10	17	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Measles	157	1	42	104	7	3	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	17	2	-	4	2	5	4	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS.

Disease	First Quarter			Second Quarter			Third Quarter			Fourth Quarter		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Whooping Cough	1	8	6	4	1	-	-	-	4	3	3	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	11	22	57	38	10	-	-	2	-	-	9	8
Acute Pneumonia	-	3	1	4	1	-	-	-	3	4	1	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Jaundice	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES AMONG THE  
DIFFERENT PARISHES.

PARISH	Puerperal Pyrexia	Whooping Cough	Measles	Acute Pneu- monia	Infect- ive Jaundice	Scarlet Fever.	Erysip- elas
Elbury	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
Instey	-	5	13	-	-	-	-
Rudeley	-	-	44	-	-	-	-
Spenden	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Raughing	-	1	8	2	-	-	1
Repton Pelham	-	4	1	-	-	-	-
Cuckland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
untingford	-	-	7	-	-	-	-
ottered	1	-	7	-	-	-	-
urneux Pelham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lgh Wych	-	1	16	-	-	-	-
ormead	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
ittle Hadham	-	-	21	1	-	-	-
eesden	-	2	7	-	-	-	-
uch Hadham	-	10	18	12	2	2	-
ocking Pelham	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
orley	-	4	7	1	-	-	-
stmill	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
ddial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES - Continued:-

Prevention of Illness - Poliomyelitis Innoculations.

The Hertfordshire County Council carried out a series of inoculations against poliomyelitis during the year, at Buntingford, and other centres convenient to residents of the Braughing Rural District.

Tuberculosis Notifications etc., during 1957 :-

The year commenced with 73 names upon the Tuberculosis Register :-

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>
<u>Males:</u>	32	7
<u>Females:</u>	21	13

One New Case was notified for the first time.

<u>Males:</u>	0	0
<u>Females:</u>	1	0

There was 1 inward transfer from another area, and 1 case restored to Register.

<u>Males:</u>	0	0
<u>Females:</u>	1	1

Four patients left the District (outward transfers) and 1 patient died.

<u>Males:</u>	5	0
<u>Females:</u>	0	0

One patient was pronounced CURED.

<u>Males</u>	1	0
<u>Females</u>	0	0

The Year therefore ended with 70 cases on the Register :-

<u>Males:</u>	26	7
<u>Females:</u>	23	14

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1957.

Line No.

						M	F
	ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	58	58
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory					1	0
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	0	0
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	0	0
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic disease					0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	1	1
11	" " lung, bronchus					3	0
12	" " breast	...	...	...	...	6	0
13	" " uterus	...	...	...	...	0	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms					8	1
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	8	8
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system					1	1
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	5	12
19	Hypertension with heart disease					12	7
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	0	3
21	Other circulatory disease					7	1
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	7
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	0	1
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1	2
25	Other diseases of respiratory system					0	0
26	Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	3	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea					0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	0	0
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	0	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion					2	0
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	0	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases					0	0
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	5	8
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	0	1
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	2
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	0	0
(a)	Still Births	...	...	...	...	3	1
(b)	Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	...				4	3
(c)	" " " four weeks to one year of age					3	2





S E C T I O N . B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR BRAUGHING  
RURAL DISTRICT.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In emergency, certain (Medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford, or the Herts. and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES.

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, are available for Braughing. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres.

Number of Nurses (Equivalent full time)  $3\frac{1}{2}$

Welfare Centre 3 (Mobile Clinic).

Vaccinations, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations.

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centres will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxis free of charge.

Home and Domestic Help.

Applications for this Service should be addressed to the Local Organiser at 27, Bulls Plain, Hertford (Telephone: Hertford 3232) or 25a, Portland Road, Bishop's Stortford (Telephone: Bishop's Stortford 332).

A charge may be made for this Service, in accordance with the County Council's assessment scale.

Care and After Care.

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. Medical Loan Depots have been established at Braughing, Buntingford and Much Hadham.

A charge may be made for both the above services.

## Ambulance Service.

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford (Telephone: Hertford 2222) at Bishop's Stortford (Telephone: Bishop's Stortford 1101), and Ware (Telephone: Ware 441). Except in emergency an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

## Day Nurseries.

There are no Day Nurseries in the Braughing Rural District.

## Mental Health.

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Duly Authorised Officer, Mr. J.H. Webster, Collett Road, Ware, Herts: (Telephone: WARE 541).

Help in respect of Mentally Defective persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer.

An Occupation Centre for defective children has been established in Hertford.

## HOSPITAL SERVICES.

The Area is served chiefly by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford, and the Herts. & Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

Chronic Sick can receive hospital treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware.

All the above beds are managed by the Hertford Group Hospital Management Committee, within the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

Western House also provides beds under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, on behalf of the Hertfordshire County Council.

## GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICES.

There are 4 doctors in the Area. Practitioners from adjoining areas also have some patients in Braughing Rural District.

## DENTAL SERVICE.

1 dentist practises in Buntingford. The District is also served by Dentists in adjoining localities.

## OTHER SERVICES.

There is a Club for Old People at Buntingford.

Women's Institutes are active at 15 centres in the District.



S E C T I O N C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

For the Year 1957.



## W A T E R   S U P P L Y.

### Source of Supply.

There is a piped supply in each of the 19 parishes.

Thirteen of these are supplied from Chipping Pumping Station.

Out of the remaining 6 Parishes, Thorley is supplied from Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council, High Wych from the Herts and Essex Water Company, leaving the two Hadhams, Albury and Braughing which are supplied from Standon, in the Ware Rural District.

### Quality of Water Supply.

#### Bacteriological.

Samples of Water taken each month from the Chipping Pumping Station were subjected to bacteriological test, and the report on each sample was satisfactory.

Distribution of Supply.

<u>PARISH</u>	TYPE OF WATER SUPPLY		
	WATER IN HOUSE.	OUTSIDE SUPPLY (STANPIPE).	WELLS
Albury	180	11	1
Anstey	74	17	16
Ardeley	97	22	11
Aspenden	75	--	—
Braughing	196	115	4
Brent Pelham	56	4	4
Buckland	99	10	1
Buntingford	534	57	1
Cottered	153	14	2
Furneux Pelham	116	18	5
High Wych	132	19	37
Hornstead	204	3	—
Little Hadham	236	31	—
Leesden	37	4	—
Much Hadham	604	36	1
Stocking Pelham	39	5	—
Thorley	62	5	—
Westmill	61	7	15
Wyddial	27	14	1
Total 1957 ...	2982	392	99
Total 1956 ...	2941	401	100

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

### Cesspools.

During the year 1349 emptyings were carried out.

The Scheme of providing one free emptying enables the demand on this Service to be met with very little delay.

### Sewage Treatment Plants.

Two lagoons at the Much Hadham Works were emptied completely in an attempt to achieve better soakage of the settled effluent.

The Council's mobile team have put into operation the sludge-drying beds at the Buntingford Works, and this work has provided a more even distribution of the settled effluent over the irrigation area.

A new treatment plant has been constructed to serve the Castle and Buryfields cottages at Anstey, and the plant is now producing a good quality effluent.

The Council have decided that the proposed sewerage and sewage disposal schemes for Braughing be commenced during the latter months of 1958.

Two sewage disposal schemes are in the course of preparation for the parishes of High Wych and Cottered, and these will be submitted to the Ministry during 1958.

The improvements on the treatment plants reported in last years report are being maintained as a result of the regular maintenance by the mobile team.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Meat inspection took place at the 3 licensed slaughter-houses in the District, situated at Buntingford (2) and Braughing (1) with the following results :-

Total Number of Carcasses Inspected .... .... 1160

Meat condemned as unfit

Home Killed .... .... 307 lbs

No other foods were condemned.

	Steers	Heifers	Cows and Bulls	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total.
<u>Animals Slaughtered (if known).</u>	95	23	-	40	785	217	1160
<u>Animals inspected</u>	95	23	-	40	785	217	1160
<u>Condemned for Reasons other than T.B. or C. Bovis.</u>							
Whole Carcase	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Part or Organ	8	1	-	-	-	1	10
Weight	87	4	-	-	-	3	94 lbs
<u>Condemned for Tuberculosis.</u>							
Whole Carcase	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Part or Organ	4	2	-	-	-	1	7
Weight	86	102	-	-	-	8	196 lbs
<u>Condemned for Cysticercus Bovis.</u>							
Whole Carcase	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Part or Organ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

PARTICULARS OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

DURING THE YEAR 1957 - (JUNE - DECEMBER).

Public Health.

Inspections Public Health Act	...	...	5
Reinspections Public Health Act	...	...	37
Drainage Inspections and Tests	...	...	40
Cesspools	...	...	9
Sewage Disposal Installations	...	...	3
Keeping of Animals	...	...	7

Housing.

Inspections Housing Act	...	...	58
Reinspections Housing Act	...	...	74
Visits re overcrowding	...	...	1
Visits and Inspections under the Rent Act	...	...	8

Refuse Collections.

Visits to Premises	...	...	1
Visits to Tips	...	...	6

Meat and Other Foods.

Inspections of Meat	...	...	248
Inspections of Food Premises	...	...	108
Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	3
Inspections of Unsound Food	...	...	1

Licensed Premises.

Inspections re cleanliness, conveniences etc.		36
-----------------------------------------------	--	----

Sampling.

Milk samples taken	...	...	45
Water samples taken	...	...	6
Ice Cream samples taken	...	...	3

Dairies.

Inspections of Dairies	...	...	6
------------------------	-----	-----	---

Total carried forward ...		705
---------------------------	--	-----

	Total	Brought forward	705
<u>Moveable Dwellings.</u>			
Inspections of Tenants, Vans and Sheds	...		12
<u>Factories Act.</u>			
Inspections of Factories with Power	...		40
Inspections of Factories without Power	...		7
Inspections of other premises(excluding outworkers Premises)			1
Inspections of Outworkers Premises	...		10
<u>Council Houses.</u>			
Inspections and Visits to Council Houses	...		154
Inspections of premises Council House Applicants.			6
<u>Miscellaneous.</u>			
Infectious disease investigations	...	...	4
Rodent Control	...	...	125
Disinfestation and inspections Verminous premises			4
Inspections under Petroleum Act	...	...	2
Building Inspections	...	...	40
Appointments with Owners	...	...	12
Unfounded complaints	...	...	1
Other successful visits	...	...	25
Unsuccessful visits	...	...	88
Total			1236
Telephone Calls made and Received			52

HOUSING PROGRESS 1957.

By Private Enterprise.

New Dwellings erected	18
-----------------------	----

By the Council.

New Dwellings erected	NIL
-----------------------	-----

Total Property Controlled by the Council on 31st December, 1957.

Council Houses	777
----------------	-----

Sundries	15
----------	----

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IMPROVEMENTS GRANTS.

Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949, were made in respect of schemes for improvement of 15 properties.

FOODS AND DRUGS ACTS.

MILK SAMPLES.

During the year 45 routine samples of milk were sent to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory for methylene blue and phosphatase tests. ALL samples passed the test.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES.

During the year three samples of Ice Cream were sent to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory, and all were placed in Provisional Grade.1.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

RODENT CONTROL.

Two part-time Rodent Operatives are employed by the Council.

The Council offer free treatment of rodent infestations at Private households, but a charge is made for treating Trade or Business premises.

Routine treatments were carried out on the Council's refuse tips. Tests baits were laid in the Council's sewers at Buntingford, Cottered, High Wych and Much Hadham. Systems at Buntingford and Much Hadham were found to be infested and the necessary treatments were carried out.

During the year 121 properties which were inspected were found to be infested with rats and mice, and were treated by the Council's operatives.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This continues upon the basis of a fortnightly collection covering the whole District. Refuse is disposed of at the Council's tipping sites at Buckland, Much Hadham, Braughing and Furneux Pelham.

S E C T I O N D.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The following is a summary of information already supplied in detail to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised), in respect of the year 1957.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Factories without Mechanical Power.

Number on Register	7
Inspections	7
Written Notices	0

Factories with Mechanical Power.

Number on Register	32
Inspections	40
Written Notices	4

Other Premises under the Act:

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building Operations, Works of Engineering Construction, but excluding Outworker's Premises).

Number on Register	1
Inspections	1
Written Notices	0

2. Cases in which Defects were Found: 4

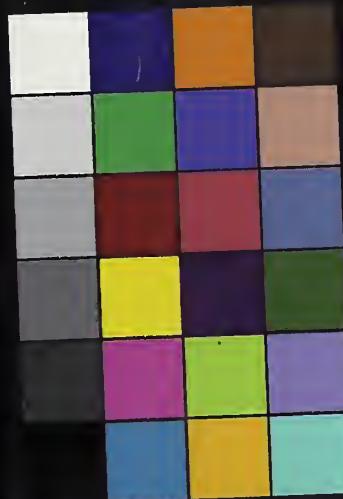
Part VIII of the Act.

OUTWORK. (Sections 110 and 111).

Line 13	Wearing Apparel (Making etc).	5
" 34	Making Receptacles of Paper	4



LEFT



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